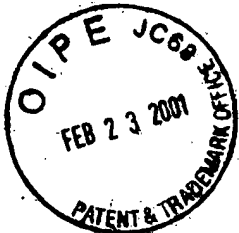


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CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

Check Box, if applicable:
☐ DUPLICATE

Address to: Director of Patents and Trademarks BOX CPA Washington, D.C. 20231		Attorney Docket No.	980150
		First Named Inventor	OHMI et al.
		Express Mail Label No.	
		Total Pages	

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d) (continued prosecution application or CPA) of prior application number 09 / 023,416, filed on February 13, 1998, entitled FLUID CONTROL APPARATUS

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

1. ☐ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
3. This Application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53 (d)(4).
 - a. ☐ DELETE the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. ☐ PTO-1449
 - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

02/27/2001 STEFFERA 00000044 09023416

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710.00 OP

Fee Transmittal				Basic Fee
The filing fee is calculated below	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	\$710.00
Total Claims	6 - 20		x \$18.00	
Independent Claims	1 - 3		x \$80.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims			\$270.00	
Basic Filing Fee				710.00
Reduction by 1/2 for small entity				
TOTAL				710.00

**CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)
REQUEST TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

PAGE 2 OF 2

6. Small entity status:

- a. ☐ A small entity statement is enclosed.
- b. ☐ A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.
- c. ☐ Is no longer claimed.

7. ☐ Please charge our Deposit Account No. **01-2340** in the total amount of ##. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16, or fees for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **01-2340**. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

8. ☒ A check in the amount of 820.00 is enclosed. This check includes \$ 710.00 basic filing fee and \$ 110.00 for the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time (one (1) month).

9. ☒ The application is assigned to: Tadahiro Ohmi, Sendai-shi, Japan and Fujikin Incorporated, Osaka, Japan (Name, city and country)

10. ☐ Claim for Convention Priority ☐ Certified copy of Priority Document(s)
Priority of Japanese Patent application no. 9-029996 filed on February 14, 1997 is claimed under 35 USC 119.
The certified copy has been filed in prior application Serial No. 09/023,416. (if applicable).

11. ☐ Other _____

12. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

13. SUBMITTED BY

Typed or Printed Name John F. Carney

Reg. No. 20,276

Signature

Date: February 23, 2001

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

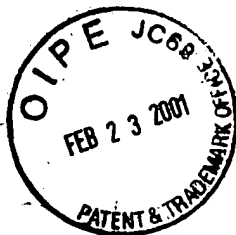
In re the Application of:

OHMI et al.

Serial Number: 09/023,416

Filed: February 13, 1998

For: FLUID CONTROL APPARATUS



Group Art Unit: 3753

Examiner: J. BASTIANELLI

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 23, 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to the filing of the instant Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) from Application Serial No. 09/023,416, filed February 13, 1998, and prior to examination thereof, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A fluid control apparatus comprising a plurality of lines, each line having a fluid controller, an inlet on-off device and an outlet on-off device arranged respectively at an inlet side and an outlet side of each of the fluid controllers, each of the on-off devices comprising one valve or a plurality of valves, with the adjacent valves interconnecting each other without using